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Docket: T2147-907881US02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No.: 9204
Charles PETIT :
Serial No.: 10/692,862 : Examiner: Minh N. TRINH
Filed: October 27, 2003 : Group Art Unit: 3729
For: Method for Mounting Integrated :
Circuits on a Printed Circuit Card :
McLean, Virginia
October 8, 2004

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Restriction Requirement is filed in response to the Office Action dated September 20, 2004, directed to the above-identified application.

In response thereto, Applicant elects for purposes of prosecution and with traverse, the claims of Group II namely Claims 25-28. Applicant further requests reconsideration of the restriction/election requirement with respect to the remaining claims.

REMARKS

The Examiner bases his requirement for restriction/election on the argument that the inventions are distinct because they are related as process and apparatus.

While the claims may be related as process and apparatus, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion that they are distinct from each other.

As the Examiner has noted, all of the claims are classified in Class 29. The fact that they may have different subclass designations does not make the inventions distinct. The Examiner asserts that "the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus such as the steps of pressing, monitoring and/or placing can be practiced by different apparatus (sic) instead of the tool of the invention, or by hand, etc." The Examiner has broadly selected method steps (pressing, monitoring and placing), but has completely ignored the associated language which makes it abundantly clear that the process cannot be practiced by another materially different apparatus. For example, the first step requires insertion of a chock at a specific location with respect to a printed circuit card having through holes. The second step requires insertions of a standoff through the holes. Thus, the tool is an integral part of the process and cannot be simply divorced therefrom as the Examiner has done by ignoring the elements required to carry out the steps.

For at least these reasons the inventions of Claims 19-24 are not distinct from the invention of Claims 25-28.

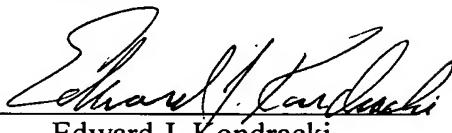
This also applies for the invention of Claim 29 as that merely calls for the step of removal of a mounted component which could easily have been presented as a dependent claim calling for removing the mounted component of Claim 25.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes the restriction/election requirement is improper and all claims should be examined in a single application.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction/election requirement are respectfully requested.

Respectfully,

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